~~wherein at least one of said first,~~ said second and said third mobile data [~~device~~] ~~devices~~ includes a display; [each being of said size and weight to be carried by an individual user and being operable to collect data and display data to the individual user; and]

wherein at least one of said first, said second and said third mobile data devices includes means for collecting data; and

a first, a second and a third radio frequency unit operably and respectively attached to said first, said second and said third mobile data devices, said radio frequency units providing radio frequency communications between said first mobile data device and at least one of said second and said third mobile data devices and wherein said second and said third radio frequency units provide communication directly [therebetween] between said second and said third mobile data devices in addition to the provision of radio frequency communication with said first [radio frequency unit] mobile data device.

~~9~~. The personal local area network for a data capture system of claim ~~8~~ wherein the [mobile] battery power supply of said first mobile data device has a relatively high capacity in relation to said [mobile] battery power supplies of said second and said third mobile data devices, and [said first mobile data device is in a standard mode] wherein said first mobile data device with said first radio frequency unit transmits IDLE SENSE messages [scheduled such that] and wherein said second mobile data device with said second radio frequency unit and said third mobile data device with said third radio frequency [units] unit can [remain dormant between IDLE SENSE messages as part of an idle sense protocol and can be activated when they have data to transmit at the time of the IDLE SENSE message, and can be activated in a receive mode to receive a data message ~~in timed~~ relation to each IDLE SENSE message] ~~initiate a~~

~~communication sequence upon receiving one of said IDLE SENSE messages~~.

6
~~10~~. (once amended) The personal local area network for a data capture system of claim 8 [wherein the use of idle sense protocol increases efficiencies in] including power management means for controlling and reducing the power [and] consumption of said mobile data devices, said power management means including means for transmitting said IDLE SENSE messages on a schedule and means for activating said radio frequency units only during IDLE SENSE messages and during subsequent communication sequences.

3
~~11~~. (once amended) The personal local area network for a data capture system of
2 one
claim ~~9~~ wherein ~~on~~ of said second and said third mobile data devices automatically assumes the transmission of [scheduled] IDLE SENSE messages when said first radio frequency unit is out of range thereof.

4
~~12~~. (once amended) The personal local area network for a data capture system of
3
claim ~~11~~ wherein said first mobile data device [automatically restores the standard mode of radio frequency communication] resumes responsibility for IDLE SENSE message transmission when it comes back into range of said second and said third mobile data devices.

2
~~13~~. (once amended) The personal local are network for a data capture system of
2
claim ~~9~~ wherein said first mobile data device is carried by a mobile vehicle and wherein said second and said third mobile data devices [serve to collect and store data] are operable both within the range of said first radio frequency unit and outside the range of said first radio frequency unit.

7
~~14~~. (once amended) The personal local area network for a data capture system of
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claim [7] 8 wherein said first, said second and said third mobile data devices are all carried by an